

Message Text

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72

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-13 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01

RSR-01 /127 W

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R 201712Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6876

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT AU PRINCE 1417

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, EAID, HA

SUBJ: RUMORED REPLACEMENT OF SNEM CO-DIRECTOR

1. BEHIND-THE-SCENES DISCUSSIONS DURING PAST FEW DAYS APPARENTLY HAVE LED TO PRESIDENTIAL DECISION NOT RPT NOT TO REPLACE DR. VOLVICK REMY JOSEPH AS HEAD OF SNEM AS WAS WIDELY RUMORED LAST WEEK. WE HAVE HEARD JOSEPH DISCUSSED MATTER WITH NEWLY-APPOINTED PUBLIC HEALTH SECRETARY BEAULIEU EARLY MORNING OF AUGUST 17, SOON AFTER JOSEPH'S RETURN TO COUNTRY. BEAULIEU THEN TOOK UP QUESTION WITH PALACE WITH EVENTUAL RESULT THAT JOSEPH WAS RETAINED IN SNEM POSITION. REPORTEDLY HE WAS AT WORK AUGUST 20, DATE CHANGE, ACCORDING TO LOCAL RUMOR MILL, WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED.

2. ALTHOUGH REMOVAL OF JOSEPH EVIDENTLY WAS NEVER DEFINITELY DECIDED, REPORTS OF HIS PLANNED REPLACEMENT WITH UNQUALIFIED PALACE FAVORITE WERE DISQUIETING. CHARGE AND ECON OFFICER TOOK OCCASION AUGUST 17 TO QUESTION FOREIGN SECRETARY AND COMMERCE SECY, RESPECTIVELY, AS TO SIGNIFICANCE OF REPORTED CHANGE OF AFFECTING USG-FUNDED PROJECT. BOTH CABINET MEMBERS PROFESSED IGNORANCE BUT STATED THEY WOULD QUERY PALACE. PAHO REPRESENTATIVE PONS WAS SUFFICIENTLY
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DISTURBED TO DISCUSS REPORTS WITH PUBLIC HEALTH UNDERSECY

GERMAIN AND TO ARRANGE MEETING WITH PUBLIC HEALTH SECRETARY
AUGUST 17 TO EXPRESS HIS RESERVATIONS. LATTER MEETING,
HOWEVER, TURNED OUT NOT TO BE NECESSARY IN LIGHT OF PALACE'S
APPARENT CHANGE OF HEART.
CORCORAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PORTA01417
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS CORCORAN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PORT AU PRINCE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730827/aaaaatxb.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RUMORED REPLACEMENT OF SNEM CO-DIRECTOR
TAGS: PINT, EAID, HA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005